

# State Post Test Police Academy Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,**

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# Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

# How to Use This Guide

**This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:**

## **1. Start with a Diagnostic Review**

**Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Don't worry about getting everything right, your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.**

## **2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions**

**Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## **3. Learn from the Explanations**

**After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.**

## **4. Track Your Progress**

**Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.**

## **5. Simulate the Real Exam**

**Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.**

## **6. Repeat and Review**

**Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning.**

## **7. Use Other Tools**

**Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.**

**There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly — adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!**

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## Questions

- 1. Upon entering a property without a warrant during exigent circumstances, what can police do if they see illegal items?**
  - A. Only document their presence**
  - B. Seize the items under the plain view exception**
  - C. Request a warrant immediately**
  - D. Interrogate suspects present**
- 2. In the context of a search warrant, what is required regarding probable cause?**
  - A. It must be a visual confirmation**
  - B. It should only be verbal**
  - C. Confirmation that smuggling is happening**
  - D. Statement from the officer based on evidence**
- 3. When handcuffing a suspect, they can be categorized as what?**
  - A. Cooperative or Uncooperative**
  - B. Compliant or Non-compliant**
  - C. Agreeable or Disagreeable**
  - D. Hostile or Friendly**
- 4. What type of language was Deputy Diouf using when responding with "10-4"?**
  - A. Formal communication**
  - B. Police jargon/slang**
  - C. Legal terminology**
  - D. Plain language**
- 5. An offender stating he is experiencing vomiting, chest pains, and shortness of breath is likely suffering from which medical emergency?**
  - A. Stroke**
  - B. Heart Attack**
  - C. Panic Attack**
  - D. Severe Allergic Reaction**

- 6. What is an important practice to prevent officers from being ambushed?**
- A. Remain alert to surroundings**
  - B. Use routine patrols**
  - C. Ignore local crime trends**
  - D. Increase vehicle speed**
- 7. What behavior involves subconsciously initiating another person's speech or gestures?**
- A. Emulating**
  - B. Mirroring**
  - C. Reflecting**
  - D. Imitating**
- 8. Which type of resistance involves a direct verbal response from an individual?**
- A. Passive**
  - B. Active**
  - C. Assaultive**
  - D. Verbal**
- 9. Which type of malfunction occurs when a semi-automatic pistol fails to extract the spent cartridge?**
- A. Stovepipe**
  - B. Misfire**
  - C. Double feed**
  - D. Feed failure**
- 10. What would be an example of a limited or "no" approach during a traffic stop?**
- A. Approaching from the rear of the vehicle**
  - B. Approaching directly from the driver's side**
  - C. Remaining in the patrol vehicle and assessing the situation**
  - D. Leaving the scene for backup**

## **Answers**

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- 1. B**
- 2. D**
- 3. B**
- 4. B**
- 5. B**
- 6. A**
- 7. B**
- 8. D**
- 9. A**
- 10. C**

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Upon entering a property without a warrant during exigent circumstances, what can police do if they see illegal items?**

- A. Only document their presence**
- B. Seize the items under the plain view exception**
- C. Request a warrant immediately**
- D. Interrogate suspects present**

When police enter a property without a warrant due to exigent circumstances, they may legally seize items that are in plain view if they are immediately identifiable as evidence of a crime. This principle is known as the "plain view" doctrine, which allows officers to take action when they observe illegal items clearly visible to them while they are lawfully present in a location. In this situation, the officers did not need a warrant to seize the items they saw because they were already justified in entering the property under exigent circumstances, such as the risk of evidence destruction or immediate danger. The key factors allowing for the seizure are that the police must be lawfully present at the location, the items must be immediately identifiable as contraband or evidence of a crime, and they must not have moved or searched for the items in a manner that violates the Fourth Amendment rights against unreasonable searches and seizures. As for the other choices, documenting the presence of the items would not lead to any action being taken against the evidence, and while requesting a warrant is a procedure that can be followed, it wouldn't be necessary in the context of plain view. Interrogating suspects present is also not a direct action linked to the observation of illegal items and can raise issues of coercion.

**2. In the context of a search warrant, what is required regarding probable cause?**

- A. It must be a visual confirmation**
- B. It should only be verbal**
- C. Confirmation that smuggling is happening**
- D. Statement from the officer based on evidence**

In the context of a search warrant, the requirement regarding probable cause is that it must be supported by a statement from the officer based on evidence. Probable cause refers to a reasonable belief, based on facts and circumstances, that a crime has been, is being, or will be committed, and that evidence of that crime is likely to be found in the place to be searched. The officer's statement is crucial because it provides the foundation for the warrant application, detailing the facts that led to the belief that a search is warranted. This can include observations, witness statements, physical evidence, or any other relevant information that substantiates the need for the search. Without a statement based on concrete evidence, a search warrant may not withstand legal scrutiny, as it could be argued that it lacks the necessary basis for establishing probable cause. Therefore, a comprehensive account from the officer, illustrating how the evidence leads to reasonable suspicion of criminal activity, is essential in justifying the issuance of a search warrant.

**3. When handcuffing a suspect, they can be categorized as what?**

- A. Cooperative or Uncooperative**
- B. Compliant or Non-compliant**
- C. Agreeable or Disagreeable**
- D. Hostile or Friendly**

The classification of suspects during handcuffing as compliant or non-compliant is crucial for law enforcement officers. This distinction helps officers gauge the level of resistance or cooperation they might encounter while making an arrest. When a suspect is compliant, they willingly follow instructions and do not pose a threat, which allows for a smoother and safer handcuffing process. On the other hand, if a suspect is non-compliant, it indicates that they may resist or pose a potential threat. This information informs the officer's approach and the measures they might need to take, including calling for backup or employing additional techniques for safety. The other choices do not accurately capture the critical dynamic involved during the handcuffing process. The terms "cooperative vs. uncooperative" and "agreeable vs. disagreeable" are more subjective and less specific in reflecting behavior during an arrest or the potential for resistance. Similarly, "hostile vs. friendly" does not provide the necessary insight into the suspect's likely actions in response to police commands. Thus, categorizing suspects as compliant or non-compliant is the most effective and relevant terminology in a law enforcement context.

**4. What type of language was Deputy Diouf using when responding with "10-4"?**

- A. Formal communication**
- B. Police jargon/slang**
- C. Legal terminology**
- D. Plain language**

When Deputy Diouf responded with "10-4," he was using police jargon or slang that is commonly understood within law enforcement and emergency services. "10-4" is part of the ten-codes, a set of brevity codes used to communicate specific messages succinctly over the radio. This type of language facilitates quick and efficient communication while minimizing misunderstandings during critical operations. The use of police jargon or slang serves several purposes; it allows officers to convey messages in a standardized way that is quick to say and easy to understand for those familiar with it. Law enforcement professionals often use these codes to ensure clarity and brevity in high-stress situations, where every second counts. Understanding these terms is crucial for effective communication among officers and between different agencies. Options such as formal communication, legal terminology, and plain language do not adequately capture the essence of the response made by Deputy Diouf. Formal communication typically involves more structured and conventional language, while legal terminology would be specific to the law and courts. Plain language would avoid specialized terms altogether, which is not the case in this instance, where the use of "10-4" is unmistakably tied to police operations.

**5. An offender stating he is experiencing vomiting, chest pains, and shortness of breath is likely suffering from which medical emergency?**

**A. Stroke**

**B. Heart Attack**

**C. Panic Attack**

**D. Severe Allergic Reaction**

The symptoms of vomiting, chest pains, and shortness of breath strongly suggest a heart attack, making it the most likely medical emergency in this scenario. A heart attack, or myocardial infarction, can manifest through these symptoms because the heart is not receiving enough blood flow, leading to pain and discomfort in the chest. Additionally, both vomiting and shortness of breath can occur as the body responds to the stress of a heart attack, often triggered by the lack of oxygenation and the release of stress hormones. Panic attacks, strokes, and severe allergic reactions might present differently or include other specific symptoms that would not solely manifest as a combination of nausea, chest pain, and breathing difficulty. Understanding these key indicators helps in quickly identifying heart issues and prompts the necessary emergency response, which is crucial for the patient's survival.

**6. What is an important practice to prevent officers from being ambushed?**

**A. Remain alert to surroundings**

**B. Use routine patrols**

**C. Ignore local crime trends**

**D. Increase vehicle speed**

Remaining alert to surroundings is crucial for preventing ambushes because it enables officers to identify potential threats before they escalate. This heightened awareness helps officers to notice unusual behaviors, suspicious individuals, or unexpected situations that could present a risk. Staying vigilant also enables officers to use their training and instincts to react appropriately to potential dangers, ensuring they can prepare for and possibly avoid an ambush scenario. Utilizing routine patrols might contribute to officer safety and crime deterrence, but it doesn't specifically focus on awareness of immediate surroundings. Ignoring local crime trends would only undermine an officer's understanding of their environment and potential threats. Finally, increasing vehicle speed could reduce response times in emergencies, but it also diminishes an officer's ability to observe and assess their surroundings, potentially making them more vulnerable to an ambush. Thus, being alert to one's surroundings is a proactive and essential practice for officer safety.

**7. What behavior involves subconsciously initiating another person's speech or gestures?**

- A. Emulating**
- B. Mirroring**
- C. Reflecting**
- D. Imitating**

The behavior that involves subconsciously initiating another person's speech or gestures is mirroring. Mirroring occurs when one person subconsciously mimics the other person's body language, gestures, or speech patterns during interaction. This phenomenon typically happens in a social context to build rapport and connection between individuals, often without either party realizing it. By reflecting similar nonverbal cues, individuals can enhance mutual understanding and create a feeling of shared experience. In contrast, while emulating, reflecting, and imitating may all involve some level of mimicry, they are not specifically related to the subconscious aspect of mimicking that characterizes mirroring. Emulating involves consciously adapting behaviors and qualities, reflecting refers to specifically responding to what someone has said, often with paraphrase, and imitating tends to be more deliberate and can be associated with performance rather than subconscious interaction. Thus, mirroring stands out as the correct choice due to its spontaneous and natural nature.

**8. Which type of resistance involves a direct verbal response from an individual?**

- A. Passive**
- B. Active**
- C. Assaultive**
- D. Verbal**

The correct answer is that the type of resistance involving a direct verbal response from an individual is verbal resistance. Verbal resistance occurs when a person communicates opposition or disagreement through spoken words. This form of resistance can manifest in various ways, such as arguing, shouting, or using disrespectful language, and is characterized by the individual expressing their unwillingness to comply with an officer's requests or commands. Verbal resistance is an essential consideration for law enforcement officers as it can escalate or de-escalate a situation. Understanding this type of resistance is important for officers to employ effective communication strategies and de-escalation techniques. This allows them to handle situations more safely and effectively, fostering resolution without the need for physical confrontation. In contrast, other types of resistance, such as passive or active resistance, involve different dynamics, with passive resistance lacking any overt verbal confrontation and instead demonstrating non-compliance through silence or inactivity. Active resistance usually involves a more physical manifestation of defiance. Assaultive resistance, on the other hand, involves physical aggression or violence aimed at harming the officer or another. Understanding these distinctions helps officers effectively assess and respond to varying levels of resistance during their interactions.

**9. Which type of malfunction occurs when a semi-automatic pistol fails to extract the spent cartridge?**

- A. Stovepipe**
- B. Misfire**
- C. Double feed**
- D. Feed failure**

When a semi-automatic pistol fails to extract the spent cartridge, it results in a malfunction known as a stovepipe. This issue specifically occurs when the spent casing is not ejected from the action, causing it to become lodged vertically in the ejection port, resembling a stovepipe. This blockage prevents the next round from being fed into the chamber, resulting in a failure to continue firing. Understanding this malfunction is critical for law enforcement officers and firearms users, as the resolution often involves clearing the obstruction by manually removing the casing before resuming fire. Proper training in identifying and addressing this type of malfunction ensures that officers can maintain operational readiness and safe handling of their firearms. The other options refer to different types of malfunctions. Misfire refers to a situation where the cartridge fails to fire altogether due to issues such as a bad primer. Double feed occurs when two cartridges try to enter the chamber simultaneously, obstructing the action. Feed failure involves the inability of a round to be fed into the chamber, often due to issues with the magazine or feed ramp. Each of these malfunctions has different causes and requires different techniques for resolution, underlining the importance of understanding various firearm issues thoroughly.

**10. What would be an example of a limited or "no" approach during a traffic stop?**

- A. Approaching from the rear of the vehicle**
- B. Approaching directly from the driver's side**
- C. Remaining in the patrol vehicle and assessing the situation**
- D. Leaving the scene for backup**

Remaining in the patrol vehicle and assessing the situation exemplifies a limited or "no" approach during a traffic stop because it demonstrates caution and prioritizes safety over immediate engagement. This approach allows an officer to evaluate the environment, observe the behavior of the occupants in the vehicle, and determine if there are any potential threats without exposing themselves to unnecessary risk. This strategy can be particularly useful if the officer notices suspicious activities, such as erratic movements or signs of aggression from the individuals in the stopped vehicle. By staying in the vehicle, the officer can also remain in a protected position, utilize communication equipment more effectively, and prepare for any needed backups or additional resources. In contrast, other approaches, such as approaching from the rear or the driver's side, involve coming into close contact with the stopped vehicle, which can increase the risk of confrontation. Leaving the scene for backup may be necessary in some situations, but it does not exemplify a limited or "no" approach, as it involves disengagement from the immediate scenario.

## Next Steps

**Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.**

**As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.**

**If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at [hello@examzify.com](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://stateposttestpoliceacademy.examzify.com>**

**We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!**